

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (currently amended) A personal protective device for repelling predators, comprising:

a circuit board, comprising:

(1) control circuitry; and

(2) a sound generator comprising a plurality of sounds recognized by animals that are predators of human beings as sounds of predators of such animals; and

(3) a switch operatively connected to said circuit board to selectively enable a preferred sound;

a piezoelectric speaker;

a power supply in electrical communication with said circuit board to enable the supply of electrical energy for operation; and

a switch for selectively supplying electrical energy to the circuit board;

wherein the circuit board, piezoelectric speaker, power supply, and switch are encased in a waterproof container.

Claim 2. (currently amended) The personal protective device according to claim 1, the sound generator further comprising:

a computer chip having ~~a sound~~ said plurality of sounds recorded thereon.

Claim 3. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 2, wherein:

the recorded sound comprises the sound of a pod of killer whales feeding.

Claim 4. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 2, wherein:

the recorded sound comprises a digitally synthesized sound of a pod of killer whales feeding.

Claim 5. (canceled)

Claim 6. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 2, wherein:

the recorded sound comprises sound of a marine animal selected from the group consisting of:

bottle-nosed dolphins;

sperm whales;

humpback whales; and

marine carnivores known to attack sharks.

Claim 7. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, wherein:

the control circuitry directs the sound generator to produce a sound when the circuit board is energized and directs the sound generator to continuously replay the sound as long as the circuit board remains energized.

Claim 8. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, wherein:

the power supply comprises a battery.

Claims 9. (canceled)

Claim 10. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, further comprising:
means for wearing the waterproof container on a human being.

Claim 11. (currently amended) The personal protective device according to ~~claim 9~~ claim 10,
wherein:

the means for wearing the waterproof container on a human being comprises a wrist
strap.

Claim 12. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, further comprising:
means for attaching the waterproof container to equipment selected from the group
consisting of:

boats;
surfboards;
floatation devices;
marine equipment;
tents;
backpacks;
tools; and
camping equipment.

Claim 13. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, wherein:

the piezoelectric speaker emits a sound sufficient to repel known predators.

Claim 14. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, wherein:

the piezoelectric speaker emits a sound between approximately 120 decibels and approximately 190 decibels.

Claim 15. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, wherein:

the sound produced by the piezoelectric speaker is transmitted through water for a distance of at least 30 meters.

Claim 16. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a first pushbutton to turn the device on by placing the switch in an enabled orientation.

Claim 17. (original) The personal protective device according to claim 16, further comprising:

a second pushbutton to turn the device off by placing the switch in a disabled orientation.

Claim 18. (currently amended) A method of repelling predators of humans, the method comprising the steps of:

a. donning a personal protective device comprising:

a circuit board, said circuit board further comprising control circuitry and a sound generator comprising a plurality of sounds recognized by animals that are predators of human

beings as sounds of predators of such animals; and a switch operatively connected to said circuit board to selectively enable a preferred sound;

a piezoelectric speaker;

a power supply in electrical communication with said circuit board to enable the supply of electrical energy for operation; and

a switch for selectively supplying electrical energy to the circuit board;

b. traveling to an area where first animals that are predators of humans are present; and

c. causing said personal protective device to play a recording of sounds of second animals that are predators of said first animals at sufficient amplitude to repel said first animals away from said personal protective device.

Claim 19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said recording is played at an amplitude of between approximately 120 decibels and approximately 190 decibels.

Claim 20. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said recording is played at an amplitude sufficient to transmit said sounds a distance of at least 30 meters.

Claim 21. (currently amended) A method of protecting humans from predatory animals, the method comprising the steps of:

a. providing a personal protective device comprising:

a circuit board, said circuit board further comprising control circuitry and a sound generator comprising a plurality of sounds recognized by animals that are predators of

human beings as sounds of predators of such animals; and a switch operatively connected to said circuit board to selectively enable a preferred sound;

a piezoelectric speaker;

a power supply in electrical communication with said circuit board to enable the supply of electrical energy for operation; and

a switch for selectively supplying electrical energy to the circuit board; and

b. instructing a user of said personal protective device to cause said personal protective device to play a recording of sounds of first animals that are predators of second animals at sufficient amplitude to repel said second animals away from said personal protective device after said user has traveled to an area where said second animals are present, wherein said second animals are predators of humans.